

H. CON. RES. 154, TO CONGRATULATE THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN ON THE
OCCASION OF ITS FIRST PRESIDENTIAL DEMO-
CRATIC ELECTION

Y 4. IN 8/16:C 44/10

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MARKUP
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION

MAY 15, 1996

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations

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MARKUP OF H. CON. RES. 154

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1996

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
Washington, DC

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:09 a.m., in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC, the Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman, chairman of the committee, presiding.

Chairman GILMAN. The meeting will come to order. The committee on International Relations meets today in open session pursuant to notice to consider certain legislation and for the purpose of holding a hearing on the Armenian Genocide. We will be handling the relatively non-controversial resolution on Taiwan first, and will then begin our hearing.

With respect to the resolution, the Chair will entertain a motion that it be requested to obtain consideration of the resolution on the suspension calendar.

Does the Minority have any opening statements?

Mr. Menendez, any opening statement on the Taiwan resolution?

Mr. MENENDEZ. On Taiwan, no, Mr. Chair.

Chairman GILMAN. We will now consider H. Con. Res. 154, which congratulates the Republic of China on Taiwan on occasion of its first democratic Presidential election.

This resolution was introduced by our colleague, Mr. Funderburk of North Carolina, on March 26th. It was considered favorably in the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific on May 9, 1996, and it was ordered forwarded to the full committee without amendment.

The Chair lays the concurrent resolution before the committee. The clerk will report the title of the concurrent resolution.

The CLERK. H. Con. Res. 154, To congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first Presidential democratic election.

[H. Con. Res. 154 appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will read the preamble and text of the concurrent resolution for amendment.

The CLERK. Whereas the Chinese people have the world's oldest continuous civilization;

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, both the preamble and the text of the concurrent resolution are considered as having been read and are open to amendment at any point, as is the title of the concurrent resolution.

The Chair will now recognize the distinguished Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, for 5 minutes to introduce the resolution.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The resolution before us today, H. Con. Res. 154, congratulates the popularly elected President of Taiwan, Lee Teng-hui, as well as the courageous people of Taiwan for the overwhelming success of their March 23, 1996 Presidential elections.

The Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific passed the resolution on May 9 without objection or amendment. I understand that at today's markup, there will be an amendment I endorse, offered by the sponsor of the resolution, the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Funderburk.

First, on a personal level, I would like to congratulate President Lee for his outstanding electoral victory. Garnering 54 percent of the vote in a four-way contest is a truly remarkable feat.

Second, I believe the people of Taiwan have earned the respect and admiration of people throughout the world and deserve our greatest praise. They have embraced democratic reforms with the same enthusiasm and good sense that has driven Taiwan's economy to its current heights.

In addition, the people of Taiwan conducted themselves with great courage and resolve throughout the crises created by Beijing's heavy-handed effort to bully them through provocative live-fire exercises and missile tests.

Finally, let me make an editorial comment about the message that Taiwan's successful transition to democracy holds for all of Asia. Nothing belies the notion that democratic principles are alien to traditional values better than what has transpired in Taiwan during the last 10 years. Taiwan joins Korea, Thailand, Mongolia and the Philippines as an important success story in Asian democracy and human rights. All of them are in different stages of their development.

Success of Taiwan's democratic development demonstrates clearly that democracy and economic development are compatible and mutually reinforcing. I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 154. I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. Funderburk.

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank Chairman Bereuter for his help in the Asia Subcommittee. And we wanted this to be voted on in the House by May the 20th, which is the date of the inauguration of President Lee. Today, I wanted to thank my staff assistant, Dr. Sam K. Lee, who was born in China. I thank him for his help with this and also for the cooperative support of Democrats.

The reason and purpose for this is to extend heartfelt congratulations from one of the oldest democratic republics to one of the youngest and to extend a special welcome to the Chinese people on Taiwan to a unique fraternity among nations, the democracies. To this end, I submitted the House concurrent resolution, extending our congratulations to the Republic of China on Taiwan.

The resolution is a strong signal that the United States stands with friendly democratic countries and will defend them in the face of bullying threats. I want to applaud Taiwan's act of self-determination and this bi-partisan legislation draws a clear line of dis-

inction between Taiwan, a free market democracy and Mainland China. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Yes, who is seeking recognition? Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This resolution is a welcome step toward focusing our China policy where it ought to be focused. For too many years, the United States has ignored and insulted a faithful and freedom-loving ally in order to curry favor with a totalitarian dictatorship. This policy is not only morally problematic; it is also self-defeating.

The recent Taiwan elections have shown that the Chinese people, like people the world over, will choose democracy and freedom when they are given the opportunity.

The election also highlights a difficult choice for the people of Taiwan, whether their government should move gradually toward official independence or continue to assert its historic status as the government of the Republic of China?

The United States should take no position on this question. We should insist only that the choice be freely made by the people themselves, acting through legitimately elected institutions.

We should also recognize that the only real hope for eventual reunification of China rests in the possibility that freedom and democracy will also come to the mainland. Today, as the Chinese regime tightens its grip on power, this possibility seems remote. But the Taiwan election should offer both an example and an incentive to Beijing. The message they send is clear; join us in choosing freedom, we will never go back to slavery.

The people of Taiwan will never choose absorption by a Communist Government. The model for reunification, if it is ever to happen, is not Hong Kong, where millions of people who have had no say in the matter are about to be delivered forcibly into the hands of despotism.

Rather the model is Germany, where people who had thrown off the shackles of communism quickly and freely chose unity with the free and prosperous society that had been built by their countrymen, who were happy to welcome and assist them.

I congratulate Congressman Funderburk for this important resolution and I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving it such expeditious consideration here.

Chairman GILMAN. Are any other members seeking recognition?

Mr. Chabot.

Mr. CHABOT. Yes. I appreciate the opportunity. I will be very brief.

I work very closely with the Taiwanese community in Cincinnati in the district that I represent with Dr. C.T. Lee, Dr. Mark Tswang, and many others. And, Dr. Lee, for example, went over during the elections to Taiwan to see first-hand democracy in action.

And I just would like to congratulate those in my community, as well as the people of Taiwan, for holding the first democratic Presidential election in Chinese history. It is just a first step, but a very big first step. And I just want to offer my heartfelt congratulations on this tremendous opportunity. Thank you.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chabot.

Any other members seeking recognition?

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Burton.

Mr. BURTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief. The Republic of China on Taiwan has been very strong friends of the United States since Chang-Kai-shek went to Formosa back in the 1940's. And they have been with us through thick and thin. They have made giant strides in their economy and now they have taken giant steps toward completely democratizing the island. They should be an example for the entire world, and they are to be congratulated.

So I would just like to add my thanks to Representative Funderburk for this resolution and to tell our friends in Taiwan that we intend to be friends of theirs for a long, long time in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Burton.

Are any other members seeking recognition?

Mr. Ackerman.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to congratulate you and the sponsors for the timely consideration of this resolution and would like to compliment and congratulate the people of the Republic of Taiwan and congratulate its duly elected president. And ask unanimous consent to put a full statement in the record.

[Mr. Ackerman's statement appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Ackerman.

Any other member? Mr. Faleomavaega.

Mr. FALDOMUVAEGA. Mr. Chairman, my only disappointment or regret is that I was not an original co-sponsor of this resolution and I certainly want to commend the gentleman, Mr. Funderburk, for sponsoring this resolution and I think it is only fitting, and certainly proper, that this resolution makes a public statement to the Members of the Congress, to the world, and how happy we are that finally the Republic of China and Taiwan has held its first democratic elections for its presidency.

And I think it speaks well also, Mr. Chairman, of our chairman of our Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific, and the gentleman from Nebraska, for his leadership, and seeing that the members are sensitized, especially to the issues affecting the Asia-Pacific region.

And I think that this is most appropriate and I congratulate the gentlemen for bringing this resolution to the committee for consideration.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Faleomavaega.

Are any other members seeking recognition? If not, Mr. Funderburk, you have an amendment?

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Yes, I have an en bloc amendment at the desk.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment en bloc, offered by Mr. Funderburk. Amend the title to read as follows: "To congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first direct"—

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the amendment is considered as having been read. The gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Funderburk, is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his amendment.

[Mr. Funderburk's en bloc amendment appears in the appendix.]

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Chairman, I only wanted to say that, basically, these amendments are technical amendments to change the dates and some of the wording which we were congratulating them at an earlier date. And so, to change it after the election was actually taking place, and with the inauguration of the President in mind.

And we worked this out in conjunction with Democrats on the committee as well as Republicans. We had over 230 to date, Members—Democrats and Republicans who have signed on and concurred.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Funderburk.

Is there any debate on the amendment offered by the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Funderburk? If not, the question is now on amendment. As many as in favor, signify by saying, "aye".

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman GILMAN. As many as are opposed, signify by saying "no". The ayes appear to have it. The ayes do have it, and the amendment is agreed to.

Are there any other amendments or other members seeking recognition?

We commend the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Funderburk, for his initiative in crafting H. Con. Res. 154 and commend the Subcommittee Chairman, Mr. Bereuter, and the ranking minority member, Mr. Berman for expeditiously passing this measure on to the full committee.

The people of Taiwan, the President, and President Lee deserve our praise and support for holding Taiwan's first Presidential election. The people of Taiwan took a great risk in sticking to their principles, despite the attempted intimidation by the People's Republic in Beijing.

They proved that it is possible to stand up to Beijing when hostile military maneuvers were taking place, and the Administration was waffling what our nation would, or would not, do if Taiwan were attacked. The people of Taiwan were brave and stood together.

It took an act of Congress to prompt the Administration to send two aircraft carrier battle groups to the region. That kind of ambiguity still persists.

Yesterday, a Washington Post article pointed out that the Clinton administration has not received any promises from Beijing regarding future sales of nuclear weapon technology. And yet, the Administration, last Friday, announced that it would not punish China for its past ring magnet delivery.

And what about the sale of cruise missiles to Iran? The Administration has still not done anything with regard to that proposal.

We need more people like the Taiwanese around the world. They set a great example for other aspiring democracies, as well as for our own nation. We welcome them into the family of democratic nations and we wish the people of Taiwan the very best for their people in the years ahead.

The gentleman from Nebraska is recognized to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the Chairman, or his designee, be requested to seek consideration of this resolution on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the——

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Yes, Mr. Ackerman?

Mr. ACKERMAN. I would just seek recognition.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Ackerman.

Mr. ACKERMAN. I would just like to say, briefly, that while there are those that would unabashedly and unashamedly seek any opportunity even at the time that we are considering non-partisan resolutions, which are supported by a majority of the members of this committee overwhelmingly, and a majority of the House, to seek the political opportunity, as was circulated in a memo by certain members, to bash the Administration. That the Administration does have its very strong supports on this committee and regrets some of the remarks that were made.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the Bereuter motion. As many as in favor of the motion shall say "aye".

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman GILMAN. As many as oppose shall say "no". The ayes appear to have it. The ayes do have it, and the motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this matter are postponed.

[Whereupon, at 10:25 a.m., the committee was adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.]

APPENDIX

IV

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 154

To congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first Presidential democratic election.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 26, 1996

Mr. FUNDERBURK (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. JONES, Mr. COX of California, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. SALMON, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. BONO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. SOLOMON, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. BAKER of California, Mr. POMBO, Mr. COOLEY of Oregon, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. COBLE, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. BUYER, and Mr. ROHRABACHER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first Presidential democratic election.

Whereas the Chinese people have the world's oldest continuous civilization;

Whereas for the first time in over 4,000 years of Chinese history, the Chinese people on Taiwan will elect its president by popular vote on March 23, 1996; and

Whereas this historic event on Taiwan should be honored:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) the Congress congratulates the people of
4 Taiwan on holding the first democratic presidential
5 election in Chinese history;

6 (2) the United States continues its commitment
7 to move nations toward freedom and democracy; and

8 (3) the United States is committed to encourag-
9 ing and protecting its democratic friends on Taiwan,
10 within the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act.



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Gary L. Ackerman
Congress of the United States
5th District, New York

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
RANKING DEMOCRAT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS
SECURITIES AND GOVERNMENT
SPONSORED ENTERPRISES
DEMOCRATIC STEERING COMMITTEE

IN SUPPORT OF H. CON. RES. 154

Hon. Gary L. Ackerman (New York)

May 15, 1996

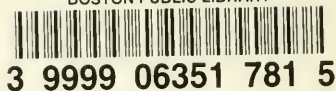
Mr. Ackerman. Thank you for the time Mr. Chairman. I do first want to express my very strong support of this measure, and thank Mr. Funderburk for originally introducing it in the Asia and Pacific Subcommittee. Of course, I commend you, Chairman Gilman, for expediting this legislation to the full committee, so that we may soon get it to the floor for a vote.

Mr. Chairman, the Chinese people on Taiwan have come a long way. Over a ten year period of time, they have succeeded in instituting many of the democratic principles that we have enjoyed in this country for over 200 years. And they have done this through the hard work, perseverance and vision of one man: President Lee Teng-Hui. President Lee, who is the first native-born Taiwanese to govern Taiwan, has done remarkable things for his country and countrymen in this short span of time.

Therefore, on March 23, 1996, President Lee was the first man in Chinese history to be popularly elected president of Taiwan. That is no small feat, considering Taiwan's recent history, as well as other adversities he had to overcome--in particular, China's bellicose attitude toward Taiwan's impending election. However, those adversities were overcome, and President Lee was elected with a vote of 54%--validating his leadership and allowing him to continue forward with his progressive policies.

The American people have stood by Taiwan over the years, and I believe will continue to do so, as they continue to grow and mature into a full-fledged democracy. I have nothing but admiration and applause for President Lee and the people of Taiwan, and I recognize that the friendship between our two countries is a very special one, and should remain as such. I therefore tip my hat to President Lee on his election, and congratulate the Taiwanese people on achieving another great victory in the fight for freedom and democracy.

I urge all my colleagues on the committee to vote in support of H. Con. Res. 154, therefore sending a clear message of congratulations and support to our friends in Taiwan.



AMENDMENT TO H. CON. RES. 154
OFFERED BY MR. FUNDERBURK OF NORTH
CAROLINA

Amend the title to read as follows: "To congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first direct and democratic presidential election and the inauguration of its president.

AMENDMENT TO H. CON. RES. 154
OFFERED BY MR. FUNDERBURK OF NORTH
CAROLINA

Amend the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas March 23, 1996, was the first time in the history of the Republic of China on Taiwan that a presidential election was held through direct popular vote by the people of Taiwan;

Whereas the election was held under great difficulties caused by extensive military threats from the People's Republic of China; and

Whereas the presidential inauguration will be held on May 20, 1996, and should be honored:

AMENDMENT TO H. CON. RES. 154
OFFERED BY MR. FUNDERBURK OF NORTH
CAROLINA

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

- 1 That—
- 2 (1) the Congress congratulates the people of
- 3 Taiwan on holding their first direct and democratic
- 4 presidential election:
- 5 (2) the United States continues its commitment
- 6 to move nations toward freedom and democracy; and
- 7 (3) the United States is committed to encourag-
- 8 ing and protecting its democratic friends on Taiwan.
- 9 within the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act.

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ISBN 0-16-052932-8



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